

CENTER FOR ASIAN AMERICAN MEDIA PRESENTS

CAAMFEST 2016

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TYRUS and His Legacy of Asian American Animation

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 11, 2016 — The Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) welcomes media makers and attendees to CAAMFest 2016 with an Opening Night presentation of the Bay Area premiere of Pamela Tom's *TYRUS*. The award-winning documentary, showing at the majestic Castro Theatre, paints a beautifully intimate portrait of the 105-year-old subject Tyrus Wong, eloquently exploring his childhood, career, artistic legacy and the formation of what he views to be his greatest achievement, his family.

TYRUS, THE MAN

Wong is a living testament to the American Dream, and his fascinating story is full of relevance, hard work and passion. From his arrival at the Angel Island Immigration Station as a nine-year-old and his battle for identity in the workplace, to the evolution of his voice and legacy, Wong's ups and downs have shaped the previously undiscovered man into the courageous, funny and wise visionary that he is today.

Wong's presence at Opening Night makes the event all the more meaningful as we celebrate his story and works. Leading up to Opening Night, Wong will sign a recently rediscovered painting that had been unidentified for decades. It will be on display at the Opening Night Gala following the *TYRUS* premiere.

TYRUS, THE LEGACY

Tyrus Wong is a pioneering icon whose art has touched millions through films like *REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE* and most famously, Disney's *BAMBI*. His concept art provided the DNA for a distinct and unforgettable atmosphere in the Disney classic, and his legacy as an artist has helped pave the way for new media makers.

CAAMFest 2016 partners with Pixar Animation Studios and the Walt Disney Family Museum to present *ASIAN AMERICANS IN ANIMATION*, a special presentation inspired by the man himself, Tyrus Wong. The legacy of Wong has helped spawn new generations of artists and continues to this day. The *ASIANS IN ANIMATION* showcase kicks off with *TYRUS* and continues with *BAMBI* and *THE SUPER STORY BEHIND "SANJAY'S SUPER TEAM."* Director Sanjay Patel and producer Nicole Grindle discuss the magic and inspiration behind Pixar's first lead character of color in the Oscar®-nominated short, *SANJAY'S SUPER TEAM*.

FESTIVAL TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for *TYRUS* Opening Night + Gala are \$65 for general admission and \$55 for Center for Asian American Media members. Pricing for all regular screenings: General admission

tickets - \$14. Tickets for students, seniors (65+) and disabled adults - \$13 (Limit 1 per program with ID only). Tickets for Center for Asian American Media members - \$12 (Limit 2 per program per membership ID). Pricing excludes special events and galas. Tickets go on sale to CAAM members only on Thursday, February 11, 2016 (online only) and open to the general public beginning Monday, February 15, 2016 (online only). Tickets can be purchased in-person at our CAAMFest box office at Alamo Drafthouse starting Thursday, March 3, 2016.

About CAAMFest:

CAAMFest, formerly the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF), takes place March 10-20, 2016 in the Bay Area. CAAMFest is a celebration of film, music, food and digital media from the world's most innovative Asian and Asian American artists.

About CAAM:

CAAM (Center for Asian American Media) is a non-profit organization dedicated to presenting stories that convey the richness and diversity of Asian American experiences to the broadest audience possible. CAAM does this by funding, producing, distributing and exhibiting works in film, television and digital media. For more information on CAAM, please visit www.caamedia.org.

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